PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Cody Meadow Restoration Project
Brief Description	This grant will involve planning and environmental review for meadow restoration work within Cody Meadow. Cody Meadow was identified as a restoration priority based on issues identified in Forest Service assessments performed for range NEPA for the Cody Meadow Allotment in 2004 & 2005, the ongoing existence of which were verified by a field visit in 2012. The project outcome will be a NEPA document and decision including measures needed to achieve desired conditions within Cody Meadow. Deliverables include specialist reports, proposed action, NEPA document, decision document, and engineering survey & design.
Total Requested Amount	72,000.00
Other Fund Proposed	.00
Total Project Cost	72,000.00
Project Category	Pre-Project Due Diligence
Project Area/Size	0000
Project Area Type	Not Applicable
Have you submitted to SNC this fiscal year?	No
Is this application related to other SNC funding?	No

Project Results
CEQA/NEPA Compliance
Design/permit

Project Purpose	**Project Purpose Percent**
Habitat	
Water Quality	
Working Landscapes	

County
El Dorado

Sub Region
Central

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Ms. Kimberly Morales,
Title	Hydrologist
Organization	El Dorado National Forest
Primary Address	100 Forni Road, , , Placerville, CA, 95667
Primary Phone/Fax	530-621-5261 **Ext.**
Primary Email	kmorales@fs.fed.us

PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

Project Location	
Address:	Eldorado National Forest, T10N, R17E, Section 6, 100 Forni Road, Placerville, CA, 95667
Water Agency:	n/a
Latitude:	38.742068
Longitude:	120.13391
Congressional District:	n/a
Senate:	n/a
Assembly:	n/a
Within City Limits:	No
City Name:	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant Application Type

Grant Application Type: **Category Two Pre-Project Activities**
Grant Application Type: **Category Two Pre-Project Activities**

PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION

Other Grant Project Contacts

Name:	Kimberly Morales,
Project Role:	Day-to-Day Responsibility
Phone:	5306215261
Phone Ext:	
E-mail:	kmorales@fs.fed.us

UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
Narrative Descriptions
Detailed Budget Form
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Project Location Map
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number

Topographic Map
Photos of the Project Site

To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.

Instructions for use of this form:
1. Scroll down and check the box indicating completion of requested information in the appropriate format.
   • You can move among the boxes by using your mouse or the "Tab" key.
2. When you have completed the form, print and sign at the bottom.

Please note: *Adobe® Reader® does not allow you to save your work. It is very important that you print out your form immediately after completing it.*

Appendix B1

Full Application Checklist

Project Name: Cody Meadow Restoration Project EGID#: 693

Applicant: Kimberly Morales & Duane Nelson, Eldorado National Forest

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. ☒ Completed Application Checklist *(EFN: Checklist.pdf)*
2. ☒ Table of Contents *(EFN: TOC.doc or .docx)*
3. ☒ Full Application Project Information Form *(EFN: fapi.doc, .docx or .pdf)*
4. ☒ Authorization to Apply or Resolution *(EFN: authorization.doc or .docx)*
5. ☒ Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document (maximum 10 pages, Arial 12 pt font, 1 inch margins) that includes each of the following narrative descriptions *(EFN: Narrative.doc or .docx)*
   a. ☒ Detailed Project Description
      - ☒ Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
      - ☒ Project Summary
      - ☒ Environmental Setting
   b. ☒ Workplan and Schedule
   c. ☐ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements – Category One projects only - N/A Project is Category 2
   d. ☒ Organizational Capacity
   e. ☒ Cooperation and Community Support
   f. ☒ Long Term Management and Sustainability
   g. ☒ Performance Measures
   h. ☒ Budget Narrative
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
   a. ☒ CEQA/NEPA Compliance Form *(EFN: CEQAform.doc or .docx)*

- ☐ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation *(EFN: CEQA.pdf)*
- ☐ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation *(EFN: NEPA.pdf)*

b. ■ Detailed Budget Form *(EFN: Budget.xls, .xlsx)*

c. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable – Category One projects only – N/A Project is Category 2
   - ☐ Restrictions / Agreements *(EFN: RestAgree.pdf)*
   - ☐ Regulatory Requirements / Permits *(EFN: RegPermit.pdf)*

d. Cooperation and Community Support
   - ■ Letters of Support *(EFN: LOS.doc, .docx or .pdf)*

e. Long-Term Management and Sustainability – N/A - Project is pre-project planning
   - ☐ Long-Term Management Plan *(EFN: LTMP.pdf)*

f. Maps and Photos
   - ■ Project Location Map *(EFN: LocMap.pdf)*
   - ■ Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) *(EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)*
   - ■ Topographic Map *(EFN: Topo.pdf)*
   - ■ Photos of the Project Site *(10 maximum) (EFN: Photo.jpg, .gif)*

g. Additional submission requirements <u>for Conservation Easement Acquisition applications only</u> – N/A Project is not for conservation easement acquisition
   - ☐ Acquisition Schedule *(EFN: acqSched.doc,.docx,.rtf,.pdf)*
   - ☐ Willing Seller Letter *(EFN: WillSell.pdf)*
   - ☐ Real Estate Appraisal *(EFN: Appraisal.pdf)*
   - ☐ Conservation Easement Language *(EFN: CE.pdf)*
   - ☐ Third Party Transfer Acknowledgment Letter (if applicable) *(EFN: Transfer.pdf)*

h. Additional submission requirements <u>for Site Improvement/Restoration Project applications only</u> – N/A Project is for pre-project planning.
   - ☐ Land Tenure Documents – attach only if documentation was not included with Pre-application *(EFN: Tenure.pdf)*
   - ☐ Site Plan *(EFN: SitePlan.pdf)*
   - ☐ Leases or Agreements *(EFN: LeaseAgmnt.pdf)*

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.

Kathryn O'Hardy — 10/19/12

Signed *(Authorized Representative)* — Date

Kathryn Hardy, Forest Supervisor

Name and Title *(print or type)*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION *(At least one entry with **Email address** is **REQUIRED**)*

Name: Roger Trout, Development Services Director *Phone Number:* 530/621-5775

Email Address: planning@co.el-dorado.ca.us

Name: *Phone Number:*

Email Address:

NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION *(At least one entry with Email address is REQUIRED)*

Name: Eldorado Irrigation District *Phone Number:* 530/622-4055

Email Address: admin@eid.org

Name: *Phone Number:*

Email Address:

Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details *(Choose One – should be the same as the category identified in the pre-application)*

☐ Category One Site Improvement
☐ Category One Conservation Easement Acquisition
■ Category Two Pre-Project Activities

☐ **Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition**

Project Area: _____

Total Acres: _____

SNC Portion (if different): _____

Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): _____

SNC Portion (if different): _____

For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only

☐ Appraisal Included
☐ Will submit appraisal by _____

Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable

☐ Stream Restoration/Protection
☐ Management Practices Changes
☐ Natural Resource Protection
☐ Infrastructure Development/Improvement
☐ Conservation Easement

Does the applicant intend to transfer the easement to a third party? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, is the third party organization known? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please attach a letter from this organization documenting their willingness to assume the long term management of the project.

■ **Pre-Project Activities**

Select one primary Pre-Project deliverable

☐ Permit
■ CEQA/NEPA
☐ Appraisal
☐ Plan
☐ Condition Assessment
☐ Biological Survey
☐ Environmental Site Assessment

Instructions for use of this form:
1. Scroll down and check the box indicating completion of requested information in the appropriate format.
   • You can move among the boxes by using your mouse or the "Tab" key.
2. When you have completed the form, print and sign at the bottom.

Please note: *Adobe® Reader® does not allow you to save your work. It is very important that you print out your form immediately after completing it.*

Appendix B2

Project Information Form

PROJECT NAME *(Limit name to 10 words or less)* **EGID#** 693

Cody Meadow Restoration Project

APPLICANT NAME *(Legal name, address, and zip code)*

Kimberly Morales (Hydrologist) & Duane Nelson (Placerville District Ranger), Eldorado National Forest

100 Forni Road Placerville, CA 95667

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Refer to Sec. IV, 5a in the GAP.

Has the project description been updated from the project description submitted with the Pre-Application form? *(Choose One)* ☐ SAME ■ UPDATED

CONSISTENCY WITH LOCAL GENERAL PLAN

Is this project consistent with the appropriate jurisdiction's (city/county) general plan?

☐ Yes ☐ No *(If not, explain why not.)* N/A - The project is located on Forest Service lands under federal jurisdiction.

WILLIAMSON ACT STATUS *(for conservation easement acquisition projects only)*

Is the project enrolled in a Williamson Act contract with the local county? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the expiration date of the contract? _____

FUNDING AND BUDGET INFORMATION

SNC Grant Request $ 72,000

■ Check if SNC is the sole funder of this project

PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

Name and title – type or print	*Phone*	*Email Address*
☐ Mr. Kimberly Morales	530/621-5261	kmorales@fs.fed.us
■ Ms.		

PERSON WITH DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT *(Only include this information if different from pre-application submittal)*

Name and title – type or print	*Phone*	*Email Address*
☐ Mr.		
☐ Ms.		

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Eldorado National Forest | 100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 622-5061 (Voice)
(530) 642-5122 (TTY)

File Code: 2520
Date: October 19, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Dr., Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Sir or Madam,

I want to express my support for our U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Project #693 application for Sierra Nevada Conservancy's (SNC) 2012-13 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant under Category 2. Cody Meadow Restoration Project will support the long-term ecological values and economic viability of working ranches and agricultural lands and the health of their associated watersheds.

Cody Meadow, which includes a segment of Cody Creek that is tributary to the South Fork of the American River, is within an active range allotment called Cody Allotment. The meadow has been impacted by previous grazing activities, as well as existing roads and OHV trails. Erosional features throughout the meadow have altered the surface and sub-surface flow of water and have reduced the filtering capacity of the meadow. Hydrologic alternation has likely resulted in the discontinuous flow of Cody Creek in late summer and early fall, which in turn reduces the amount of suitable habitat for aquatic species.

The goal of the Cody Meadow Restoration Project is to conduct planning activities needed to undertake a meadow restoration project that will improve habitat, hydrologic function, and water quality within Cody Meadow. Meadow restoration was identified as an intended accomplishment in the Regional Forester's Leadership Intent and is a component of the USFS National Strategic Plan for watershed restoration.

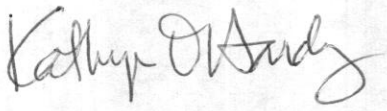
Meadows in desired condition generally have species composition and structural diversity of plant and animal communities that provide desired habitat conditions and ecological functions; ecological status of vegetation that is late seral with a diversity of age classes of hardwood shrubs present and regeneration occurring; and are hydrologically functional with sites of accelerated erosion stabilized or recovering and vegetation roots occurring throughout the soil profile. Achieving desired conditions in Cody Meadow would be expected to result in improved water quality and maintenance of beneficial uses; and would be beneficial from a rangeland perspective.

The Eldorado National Forest is requesting your consideration for full funding of $72,000 to the USFS.

Printed on Recycled Paper

The funding will support planning which will enable this important project to move forward to implementation.

Sincerely,



KATHRYN D. HARDY
Forest Supervisor

cc: Kimberly A Morales, Duane Nelson

Appendix B3
CEQA/NEPA Compliance Form

(**California Environmental Quality Act & National Environmental Policy Act**)

Instructions: All applicants, including federal agencies, must complete the CEQA compliance section. Check the box that describes the CEQA status of the proposed project. You must also complete the documentation component and submit any surveys, and/or reports that support the checked CEQA status. NOTE: There is no page limit requirement on this form. You may use the space you need to fully describe the CEQA/NEPA status of this project.

If NEPA is applicable to your project, you must complete the NEPA section in addition to the CEQA section. Check the box that describes the NEPA status of the proposed project. Complete the documentation component and submit any surveys, and/or reports that support the NEPA status.

For both CEQA and NEPA, submittal of permits is only necessary if they contain conditions providing information regarding potential environmental impacts.

CEQA STATUS
(All applicants must complete this section)

Check the box that corresponds with the CEQA compliance for your project. The proposed action is either "Not a Project" under CEQA; is Categorically Exempt from CEQA; or requires a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report per CEQA.

☐ **"Not a Project" per CEQA**

1. Describe how your project is "Not a Project" per CEQA:

2. If appropriate, provide documentation to support the "Not a Project" per CEQA status.

X Categorical Exemption or Statutory Exemption

If a project is categorically exempt from CEQA, all applicants, including public agencies that provide a filed Notice of Exemption, are required to provide a clear and comprehensive description of the physical attributes of the project site, including potential and known special-status species and habitat, in order for the SNC to make a determination that the project is exempt. A particular project that ordinarily would fall under a specific category of exemption may require further CEQA review due to individual circumstances, i.e., it is within a sensitive location, has a cumulative impact, has a significant effect on the environment , is within a scenic highway, impacts an historical resource, or is on a hazardous waste site. Potential cultural/archaeological resources must be noted, but do not need to be specifically listed or mapped at the time of application submittal. Backup data informing the exemption decision, such as biological surveys, Cultural Information Center requests, research papers, etc. should accompany the full application. Applicants anticipating the SNC to file an exemption are

encouraged to conduct the appropriate surveys and submit an information request to an office of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for claiming a Categorical or Statutory Exemption per CEQA:

   The project will produce a NEPA document & decision and is statutorily exempt from CEQA under Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines as a planning study. The NEPA document could be used to satisfy CEQA requirements (Guidelines Section 15221) when implementing the project.

2. If your organization is a state or local governmental agency, submit a signed, approved Notice of Exemption (NOE) documenting the use of the Categorical Exemption or Statutory Exemption, along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The Notice of Exemption must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

3. If your organization is a nonprofit or federal agency, there is no other California public agency having discretionary authority over your project, and you would like the SNC to prepare a NOE for your project, let us know that and provide any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support the CEQA status.

☐ **Negative Declaration OR**
☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

If a project requires a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration, then applicants must work with a qualified public agency, i.e., one that has discretionary authority over project approval or permitting, to complete the CEQA process.

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration per CEQA:

2. Submit the approved Initial Study and Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration along with any Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plans, permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The IS/ND/MND must be accompanied by a signed, approved Notice of Determination, which must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

☐ **Environmental Impact Report**

If a project requires an Environmental Impact Report, then applicants must work with a qualified public agency, i.e., one that has discretionary authority over project approval or permitting, to complete the CEQA process.

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Impact Report per CEQA:

2. Submit the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report along with any Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plans, permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The EIR documentation must be accompanied by a signed, approved Notice of Determination, which must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

NEPA STATUS
(Applicable to federal applicants, some tribal organizations, and applicants receiving federal funding or conducting activities on federal lands)

Check the box that corresponds with the NEPA compliance for your project.

☐ **Categorical Exclusion**

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for claiming a Categorical Exclusion per NEPA:

2. Submit the signed, approved Decision Memo and Categorical Exclusion, as well as documentation to support the Categorical Exclusion, including any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status:

☐ **Environmental Assessment & Finding of No Significant Impact**

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact per NEPA:

   The effects of the proposed action to be developed are not expected to rise to a level of significance and, thus, an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are expected to be appropriate

2. Submit the signed, approved Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

☐ **Environmental Impact Statement**

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Impact Statement per NEPA:

2. Submit the Draft and approved, Final Environmental Impact Statement, along with the Record of Decision and any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

Project Summary

This grant will involve planning and environmental review for meadow restoration work within Cody Meadow. Cody Meadow was identified as a restoration priority based on issues identified in Forest Service assessments performed for range NEPA for the Cody Meadow Allotment in 2004 & 2005, the ongoing existence of which were verified by a field visit in 2012.

The project outcome will be a NEPA document and decision including measures needed to achieve desired conditions within Cody Meadow. Deliverables include specialist reports, proposed action, NEPA document, decision document, and engineering survey & design.

Environmental Setting

Cody Meadow (T10N, R17E, Sec 6 & 7) is 32 miles east of Placerville and is located on the Placerville Ranger District of the Eldorado National Forest, entirely on Forest Service Lands under federal jurisdiction. The meadow consists of 123 acres of mapped meadows contained in a long narrow valley situated within the Headwaters of the South Fork American River watershed (#180201290101). The setting consists of Mehrten formation volcanic bedrock with some intrusions of granitic bedrock. The soils within the meadow are mostly fine sandy and silty Aquepts (wet weakly soils) and Umbrepts (dry weakly developed soils) with small areas of Histosolls (organic soils). Cody Meadow contains a segment of Cody Creek, which drains into Strawberry Creek, and then into the South Fork of the American River (~ 3.2 miles downstream). According to the fourth edition of the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Central Valley Region, beneficial uses for the American River include: municipal and domestic supply; irrigation; stock watering; hydropower; contact and other non-contact recreation; warm and cold freshwater habitat; cold water spawning, and wildlife habitat.

Cody Meadow is located within the Cody Meadow Unit (3,496 acres of NFS land) of the Cody Meadow Allotment (33,179 acres NFS and 30,495 acres private land) and is designated as a Key Area. Key Areas are identified for units where the timing, pattern and intensity of livestock use can be monitored and considered to be representative of the use occurring across the unit. The Cody Meadow Unit is grazed annually from approximately August 1 to August 15 by 350 head of cattle.

Roads both parallel and bisect Cody Meadow, however, most of these roads are non-system roads that are not designated for public use on the Forest's Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). The range permittee has used one non-system road to access a sheep herder's cabin in the past, and might use this road to drive to the meadow periodically, but none of the roads are an essential part of range management as most work is accomplished on horseback. One Forest Service system road bisecting part of the meadow is used by hunters and jeepers (even though not on the MVUM) although this route is not designated for public motor vehicle use. There is a non-motorized trail in the upper portion of the meadow. Past logging, including clearcutting, has occurred in the vicinity of the project.

The meadow supports a population of rainbow trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss), an Eldorado National Forest management indicator species. Cody Creek and Strawberry Creek are nurseries for the young fish that are caught as adults downstream by numerous fishermen accessing the South Fork American River off the busy Hwy 50 corridor. Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs (Rana sierrae), a Forest Service sensitive species and Candidate for listing, have been documented in the meadow in the past (in 2004 & 2005). Two fens (peat-forming wetlands that receive nutrients from sources other than precipitation) have also been documented within Cody Meadow.

The project will be designed to be consistent with the Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment.

Project Description

Meadow restoration work, including planning and implementation of projects, is an emphasis of the Eldorado National Forest's watershed program. Meadow restoration was identified as an intended accomplishment in the Regional Forester's Leadership Intent and is a component of the National Strategic Plan for watershed restoration. The goal of this project is to conduct planning activities needed to undertake a meadow restoration project that will improve hydrologic function, water quality, and habitat within Cody Meadow. The Cody Meadow Restoration Project will also support the long-term ecological value and economic viability of the Cody Meadow Allotment and the health of the Headwaters South Fork American River Watershed.

NEPA for the Allotment Management Plan for the Cody Meadow Allotment was completed in September 2007. The purpose of the Proposed Action was to permit livestock grazing on the Cody Meadow Allotment while implementing the management actions that are necessary to achieve healthy ecological conditions. Past monitoring and new inventories were used to identify areas where changes in management were needed to comply with the Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment in 2004.

Two Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) Assessments were completed for Cody Meadow as part of range NEPA.[1] One assessment was completed in 2004 and the other in 2005. The 2004 assessment found the meadow to be Non-functional, while the 2005 assessment found the meadow to be Functional-at Risk. The improvement in Cody Meadow between September 2004 and October 2005 was most likely the result of the absence of cattle grazing in summer and fall of 2005, combined with a wetter than usual spring resulting in greater near-surface moisture. Conditions in both years, however, were described as poor.

[1] The PFC assessment provides a consistent approach for assessing the physical functioning of riparian-wetland areas through consideration of hydrology, vegetation, and soil/landform attributes. The PFC assessment synthesizes information that is foundational to determining the overall health of a riparian-wetland area.

The following are observations regarding the condition of Cody Meadow from the 2005 assessment:

- Erosional features – headcuts, rills, channels, and denuded areas – exist throughout the meadow. Partial revegetation of many of these features has occurred, while others continue to actively erode. Until all of these erosional features are stabilized and no longer eroding, Cody Meadow as a whole should at best be considered as at the lower end of Functioning-at Risk.

- The channel of Cody Creek in the northern part of the meadow is fairly wide, and past bank shearing by livestock at a number of locations is evident. Portions of the stream banks lack woody riparian vegetation and, as a result, appear unstable. It appears that the water table in portions of the meadow adjacent to Cody Creek – at least in late summer and early fall – has declined since an unknown historic time.

- Two roads are eroding sediment directly into the meadow. The east-west trending Forest Service system road bisects one arm of the meadow. The other road is a non-system road that is located immediately adjacent to the northern part of the meadow. The road that bisects the meadow and its culvert, have changed the grade of the stream channel and may be the cause of a large headcut above the road. The culvert is damaged at both the inlet and the outlet, which appears to restrict the passage of surface water through it, and the road itself affects the movement of surface and sub-surface water to the lower portion of the meadow.

- Additional roads and trails adjacent to the meadow and crossing tributary channels may also contribute increased amounts of run-off and sediment to the meadow.

Aquatic habitat has been altered in Cody Meadow by the following:

- Erosional features throughout the meadow have altered the surface and sub-surface flow of water. This has likely resulted in the discontinuous flow of Cody Creek in late summer and early fall, which in turn reduces the amount of suitable habitat for frogs and fish.

- The road which bisects the meadow poses a barrier to fish passage during dry periods and exposes amphibians to crushing by vehicles from late spring to late fall.

Following the NEPA decision for the Cody Meadow Allotment Management Plan in 2007, a grazing permit was issued in 2008. Grazing Permits are issued for a 10 year period, with NEPA generally reviewed prior to the expiration date or if there is a change in condition. The new Allotment Management Plan should help to ensure that management actions occur with respect to grazing that are necessary to achieve healthy ecological conditions within Cody Meadow, but will not rectify many of the problems identified during the Proper Functioning Condition Assessments. A field visit in October 2012 verified the ongoing existence of the issues described in the PFCs, as

well as noting conifer encroachment within the meadow, although additional revegetation of some erosional features has occurred.

Using the Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant, the Forest Service will utilize an interdisciplinary team to identify appropriate restoration actions to achieve desired conditions in Cody Meadow, develop an implementation schedule, and conduct appropriate environmental review for the actions to be conducted. According to the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision of 2004, meadows in desired condition generally have species composition and structural diversity of plant and animal communities that provide desired habitat conditions and ecological functions; ecological status of vegetation that is late seral with a diversity of age classes of hardwood shrubs present and regeneration occurring; and are hydrologically functional with sites of accelerated erosion stabilized or recovering and vegetation roots occurring throughout the soil profile.

The Eldorado National Forest has assembled an interdisciplinary team (IDT) to complete the project, which includes the following specialists: archaeologist, botanist, civil engineer, fisheries biologist, cartographer, hydrologist, rangeland specialist, soil scientist, and wildlife biologist. Addressing road-related issues (through removal, replacement, and/or improvement), and stabilizing eroded areas (e.g. headcuts, rills, channels, and denuded areas), will likely be important components in reducing erosion and restoring hydrologic connectivity within the meadow. Preventing further erosion will reduce sediment delivery to Cody Creek, Strawberry Creek, and ultimately the South Fork American River, and will help prevent non-attainment of beneficial uses. To ensure that water quality is protected during project implementation, the Forest Service will utilize Best Management Practices from the Region 5 Forest Service Handbook 2509.22 (Soil and Water Conservation, Chapter 10, Water Quality Handbook) in developing the proposed action to be analyzed.

Improving the ecological condition of Cody Meadow also offers benefits from a range perspective. The ecological condition of Cody Meadow, in conjunction with livestock management, plays a significant role in the season of use and numbers allowed to graze in the Cody Meadow Unit. Even a small reduction in the season of use in the unit can adversely affect the economic viability of the grazing operation. Due to the existing ecological condition of Cody Meadow, the allowable herbaceous forage utilization standard is 30%, lower than it would be if the conditions and seral status in the meadow improved.[2] Improved meadow health and seral status would also improve the ability of the stream banks and special aquatic features to withstand livestock impacts and reduce the likelihood that grazing would exceed allowable standards for stream bank disturbance.

Existing baseline monitoring data, together with additional survey data to be collected as part of project planning, will be utilized to measure effectiveness of future restoration activities as appropriate. In addition to Proper Functioning Condition assessments, the

[2] In accordance with SNFPA Standard and Guidline #20, meadows in early seral status will have a reduced standard of 30%, whereas meadows in late seral status will have a standard of 40%.

Forest has conducted Stream Condition Inventories (SCI) in Cody Meadow.[3] The USFS Region 5 Long Term Range Monitoring Program has established two long term range condition monitoring plots in Cody Meadow. The new Allotment Management Plan for the Cody Meadow Allotment includes monitoring of key and critical areas with adaptive management actions required if specified thresholds are exceeded. Monitoring elements required for Cody Meadow, include: herbaceous forage utilization, woody riparian shrub utilization & aspen utilization, photopoint monitoring of rills and gullies, evaluation of livestock disturbance to springs or fens, and ecological status and trend.

Workplan and Schedule

Left-hand analysis will include public involvement and consideration of existing and desired conditions. Surveys will be completed as needed for archaeology, botany, engineering, fisheries, hydrology, soils, and wildlife resources. A list of potential actions to fill the gaps between existing and desired conditions will then be developed. Once left-hand analysis has been completed, a proposed action will be described and the interdisciplinary team will proceed through NEPA according to the work schedule below. Engineering survey and design work will also be completed for needed work (i.e. road work) to move the project closer to implementation.

WORK SCHEDULE*

DELIVERABLES	COMPLETION DATE
Work begins (survey work begins when snow allows)	4/30/13
Survey/inventory, proposed action/purpose & need (concurrent), project initiation letter	7/31/13
Public involvement plan & scoping	8/31/13
Issues & alternatives, specialist reports written (final, except where consultation is required)	9/30/13
Progress report	10/31/13
Consultation completed, all specialist reports finalized	12/31/13
NEPA document written	1/31/14
Engineering survey & design	2/28/14
Comment period	3/2/14
Decision document written, project completed	3/31/14
Final Report	4/30/14

*Resources needed: IDT, vehicle costs/mileage, administrative costs.

[3] SCI provides standard protocols to collect baseline and trend stream data using objective, measureable protocols. The SCI protocols can be used to compare stream condition over time with a reasonable level of statistical confidence (generally the ability to detect a 20% change with an 80% level of confidence).

Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements Narrative
N/A – This proposal is for a Category 2 project.

Organizational Capacity:
The Forest has planned and implemented numerous meadow and other restoration projects over the past 25-30 years, using both active and passive techniques. Projects have included addressing road and trail related issues, restoring hydrologic function, stabilizing eroded areas, removing encroaching conifers, planting native vegetation, and utilizing adaptive management.

The Eldorado National Forest has assembled an experienced interdisciplinary team (IDT) to complete the project, which includes the following specialists: archaeologist, botanist, civil engineer, fisheries biologist, cartographer, hydrologist, rangeland specialist, soil scientist, and wildlife biologist. Specialists on the team have pursued opportunities to acquire new skills in restoration of aquatic features and habitat, and have a network of Forest Service and other professionals to consult with if needed. The experience of the rangeland specialist will be useful in working with the allotment permittee during the completion of this project.

The Forest has also successfully utilized volunteers to complete Forest projects. Trout Unlimited has a standing Memorandum of Understanding with the Eldorado National Forest and has actively partnered with the Forest on many projects in the past.

Cooperation and Community Support
Letters of support are included in this grant from the following sources:
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Trout Unlimited Eldorado
- Natural Resources Conservation Service, Placerville Field Office

The Eldorado Chapter of Trout Unlimited has also expressed an interest in being active volunteers in this project, assisting with riparian planting and other areas of need.

Additionally, scoping is performed for all Forest Service proposals and analysis of scoping comments received will be used to identify issues. Dependent upon interest, the Eldorado National Forest webpage, informational discussions, and field trips may be used to further engage the public.

Long-Term Management and Sustainability
To fund future implementation of the project, the Forest Service would take advantage of both internal and external funding opportunities.

The Forest typically has a small amount of Watershed Improvement Program funding available each year to advance projects that protect, maintain, improve or restore water or soil resources. Treatments may be focused on soil productivity, quality and quantity of surface or ground water resources; or timing of water flows per FSM 2520. Land treatments, structures and other non-structural measures (when not required to mitigate

another project) may be implemented. As funding is generally limited, the Forest generally attempts to leverage funds received.

Internal competitive opportunities to fund decommissioning and fixing of roads and trails in environmentally sensitive areas have been available in years past on an annual basis through the Legacy Roads and Trails (CMLG) program. Although funds are limited, the Forest has successfully competed for these funds multiple times. CMLG program priorities for recent years that may be relevant to the Cody Meadow project, include: (1) road decommissioning where inaction can lead to water quality issues in stream and water bodies which support threatened, endangered and sensitive (TES) species and community water systems; (2) decommissioning unnecessary and/or undesired system and unauthorized roads or trails; (3) removing or replacing stream crossing structures that are a barrier to aquatic organism passage; (4) road and trail repair and maintenance and associated activities in environmentally sensitive areas; and (5) implementation of Best management Practices to reduce sedimentation.

The Forest has also successfully collaborated with partners to fund meadow restoration planning and implementation through grants made available by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, among others. Grants allow the Forest to accomplish significantly more restoration projects than internal funding can accommodate.

Once funding is secured, the Forest has permanent resource specialists, engineers, and construction and maintenance crews, among others, that it may call upon to see the project through implementation. The Forest has also been fortunate enough to receive in kind contributions from partners, such as Trout Unlimited (who have volunteered their assistance with this project).

Performance Measures

The following performance measures that all grantees are asked to consider are applicable to the proposed project: Number of People Reached; Dollar Value of Resources Leveraged; Number & Type of Jobs Created; and Number and Value of New, Improved or Preserved Economic Activities.

The following performance measure is also applicable to the proposed project: Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation.

Budget Narrative

The Forest plans to utilize permanent Forest Service staff to complete the pre-project planning activities described in this proposal, which avoids the high cost of contracting work out. Work performed for range NEPA, Proper Functioning Condition Assessments, Stream Condition Inventories, establishment of long term range monitoring plots, and AMP monitoring represent a Forest Service in-kind contribution to this project. In-kind support from Trout Unlimited will help to defray some project costs when the project is implemented.

Appendix B4

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

Project Name: Cody Meadow Restoration Project

Applicant: Kimberly Morales & Duane Nelson, Eldorado National Forest

SECTION ONE				**Project Cost Breakdown**					
DIRECT COSTS	**Units**	**Unit Cost**	**Total Cost**	**Year One (2013)**	**Year Two (2014)**	**Year Three (2015)**	**Year Four (2016)**	**Year Five (2017)**	**Total**
Surveys/Inventories and Reports to Support NEPA Analysis - archaeologist, botanist, civil engineer, fisheries biologist, hydrologist, rangeland specialist, soil scientist, wildlife biologist	10		31,530.00	$27,631.00	$3,899.00				$31,530.00
Interdisciplinary team leader	1	4028	4,028.00	$2,014.00	$2,014.00				$4,028.00
GIS Mapping	1	3298	3,298.00	$3,298.00					$3,298.00
Vehicle Expenses	1	4743	4,743.00	$4,743.00					$4,743.00
Engineering Site Survey & Design	1	12572	12,572.00		$12,572.00				$12,572.00
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	14	$24,641.00	$56,171.00	$37,686.00	$18,485.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$56,171.00

SECTION TWO				**Project Cost Breakdown**					
INDIRECT COSTS	**Units**	**Unit Cost**	**Total Cost**	**Year One**	**Year Two**	**Year Three**	**Year Four**	**Year Five**	**Total**
Semi-annual progress reports	2	805.46	1,610.92	$805.46	$805.46				$1,610.92
Publications, Printing, Public Relations	1	3418.08	3,418.08	$1,709.04	$1,709.04				$3,418.08
			0.00						$0.00
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	2	$805.46	$1,610.92	$805.46	$805.46	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,029.00
PROJECT TOTAL:	16	$25,446.46	$57,781.92	$38,491.46	$19,290.46	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$61,200.00

SECTION THREE				**Project Cost Breakdown**					
Administrative Costs (Costs may *not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost*) :	**Units**	**Unit Cost**	**Total Cost**	**Year One**	**Year Two**	**Year Three**	**Year Four**	**Year Five**	**Total**
*Organization operating/overhead costs	1	10800	10,800.00	$5,400.00	$5,400.00				$10,800.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	1	$10,800.00	$10,800.00	$5,400.00	$5,400.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$10,800.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	17	$36,246.46	$68,581.92	$43,891.46	$24,690.46	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$72,000.00

SECTION FOUR				**Years Fund Received**					
OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS				**Year One**	**Year Two**	**Year Three**	**Year Four**	**Year Five**	**Total**
Trout Unlimited - Volunteer Services, unknown days			0.00						$0.00
Total Other Contributions:	0	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

NOTE: The categories listed on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

* Operating Costs should be allocated to the pecentage that is applicable to the grant based on your cost allocation methodology and cannot exceed 15% of your total project costs.

CALIFORNIA
Water Boards

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

Matthew Rodriquez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

1 October 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Eldorado National Forest
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

CODY MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT – ELDORADO COUNTY

It is with pleasure that the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) extends its support to the US Forest Service (USFS) Eldorado National Forest's request for funding of the Cody Meadows Restoration Project. The mission of California's Water Boards is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The Central Valley Water Board is interested in supporting the USFS proposed project, as we share many of the same goals to protect and enhance water quality and sensitive aquatic habitat.

Cody Meadow includes a segment of Cody Creek which is tributary to the South Fork of the American River. The fourth edition of the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Central Valley Region states the beneficial uses for the American River include: municipal and domestic supply; irrigation; stock watering; hydropower; contact and other non-contact water recreation; warm and cold freshwater habitat; cold water spawning, and wildlife habitat. Cody Meadow has been adversely impacted by soil erosion from previous grazing activities, as well as roads and OHV trails, thus limiting the natural filtering capacity of the meadow system.

Restoration of the hydrologic function of the meadow system will result in improved water quality and prevent non-attainment of beneficial uses. The proposed restoration techniques will improve water quality by: reducing active erosion in the meadow and creek systems; improve the natural filtering capacity of the meadow system and; improve suitable aquatic habitat for wildlife, specifically frogs and fish.

Funding the Cody Meadow Restoration Project for the Eldorado National Forest will provide support for monitoring maintenance and restoration activities which protect beneficial uses in these waters of the state. If you have any questions, please contact Martice Vasquez at (916) 464-4716 or mvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sue McConnell

Sue McConnell, Senior Engineer
Planning and Assessment Unit

TROUT UNLIMITED
El Dorado

Date: October 16, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Sir or Madam,

The El Dorado Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to express our support for Eldorado National Forest's application for Sierra Nevada Conservancy's (SNC) 2012-13 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant under Category 2. Their proposed project, Cody Meadow Restoration Project-Project Application #693, will support long-term ecological values and health of the watershed for aquatic species, such as trout.

Erosional features throughout the meadow have altered the surface and sub-surface flow of water, which reduces the amount of suitable habitat for rainbow trout and other aquatic species. This project would improve water quality and reduce erosion by stabilizing head cuts. To manage grazing along the most sensitive aquatic areas, fencing is expected to be included to reduce further shearing at stream banks and stabilize head cuts. Aquatic habitat for rainbow trout and other aquatic species will be allowed to recover.

An existing road with a stream crossing is presently a barrier to upstream or downstream passage for trout, and needs to be removed. The access road to reach Cody Meadow is barely passable by the general public to recreate and enjoy the beauty of the meadow environment. There is a need to fix the improper drainage structures on this road, thus improve future access into Cody Meadow.

Restoration work within Cody Meadow Allotment would assure continued access to the meadow rangeland by cattle, by the range permittee, and by the public, while protecting sensitive areas along the streamcourse, and improving connectivity for hydrologic function and aquatic habitat.

The El Dorado Chapter of Trout Unlimited are interested in being active volunteers in this project, assisting with the riparian planting of bare areas at the road treatments, and any other areas of need. We have a standing Memorandum of Understanding with the Eldorado National Forest and have actively partnered in many project endeavors in the past. We would appreciate your full consideration with this proposal.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Zigelhofer
President
Trout Unlimited El Dorado

United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Placerville Field Office
100 Forni Road, Suite A
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 295-5630
(530) 295-5635 Fax

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

October 17, 2012

CODY MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT- ELDORADO COUNTY

The NRCS, Placerville Office has reviewed the El Dorado National Forest's grant application to restore the function of Cody Meadows which lies within its jurisdiction. We find the application consistent with our agencies mission to protect and enhance natural resources using a conservation minded systematic approach in concert with a lease agreement with a private agricultural enterprise to manage the resources through an agreement which would lead to common goals. We promote the use of natural tools in the management of resources whenever possible, and also recognize the need to employ more technology as needed to amend the result of past poor management.

We expect that the results of this project to end with the restoration of the natural filtering ability of a Sierra Meadow and lead to an improvement in water quality delivered into the South Fork of the American River, and improve aquatic habitat as well as habitats for Neotropical Migrating Songbirds.

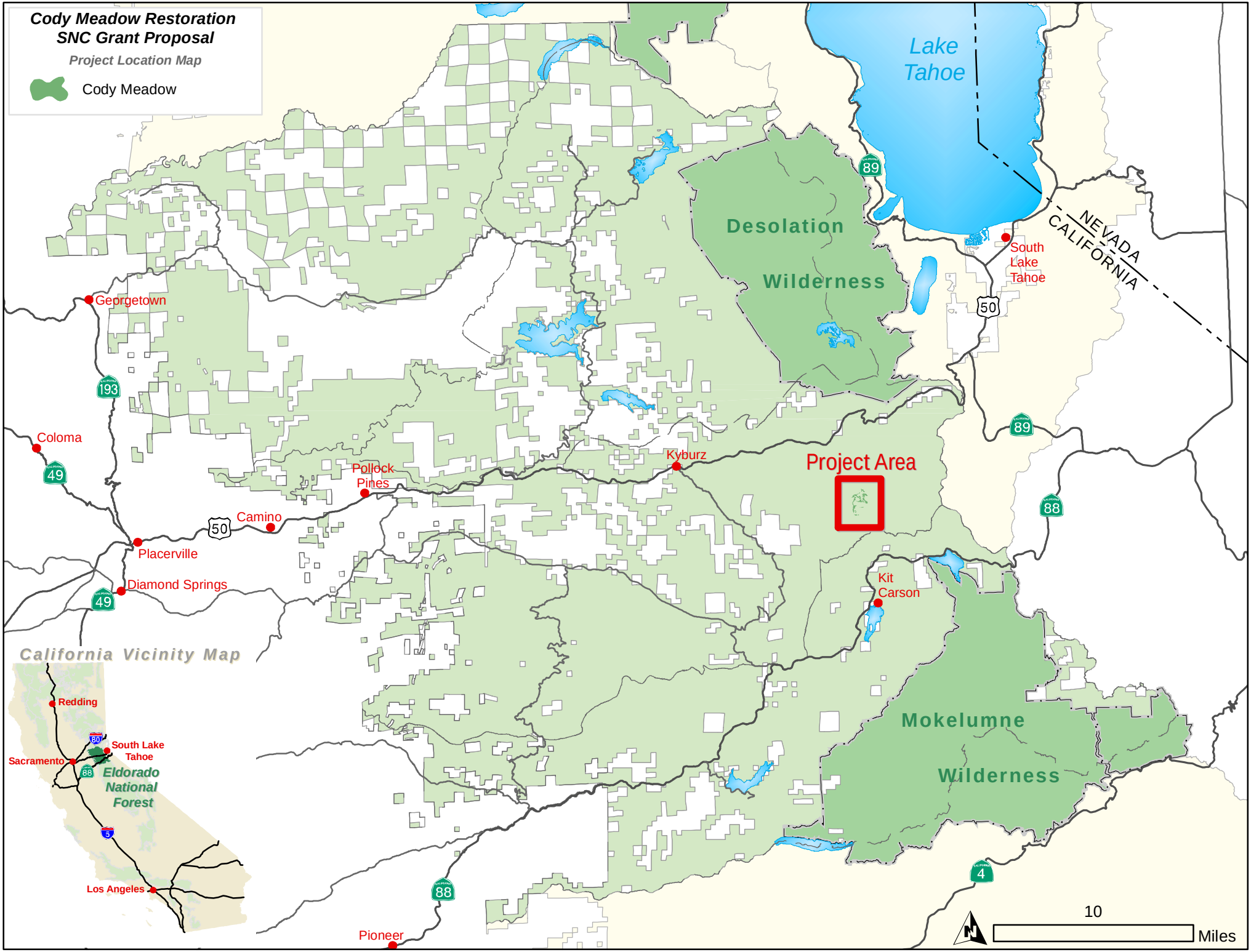
Restoration of the hydrologic function of the meadow system will result in improved water quality and benefit beneficial uses. The proposed restoration techniques will improve water quality by: reducing active erosion in the meadow and creek systems; improve the natural filtering capacity of the meadow system; and improve suitable habitat for fish, amphibians, terrestrial wildlife and birds.

Funding the Cody Meadow Restoration Project on the El Dorado National Forest will provide support restoration, management, and monitoring activities which protect beneficial uses in these waters of the state employing the use of natural tools.

If you have any questions, please contact Danny Marquis at danny.marquis@ca.usda.gov or at the NRCS, Placerville FO at (530) 295-5631.

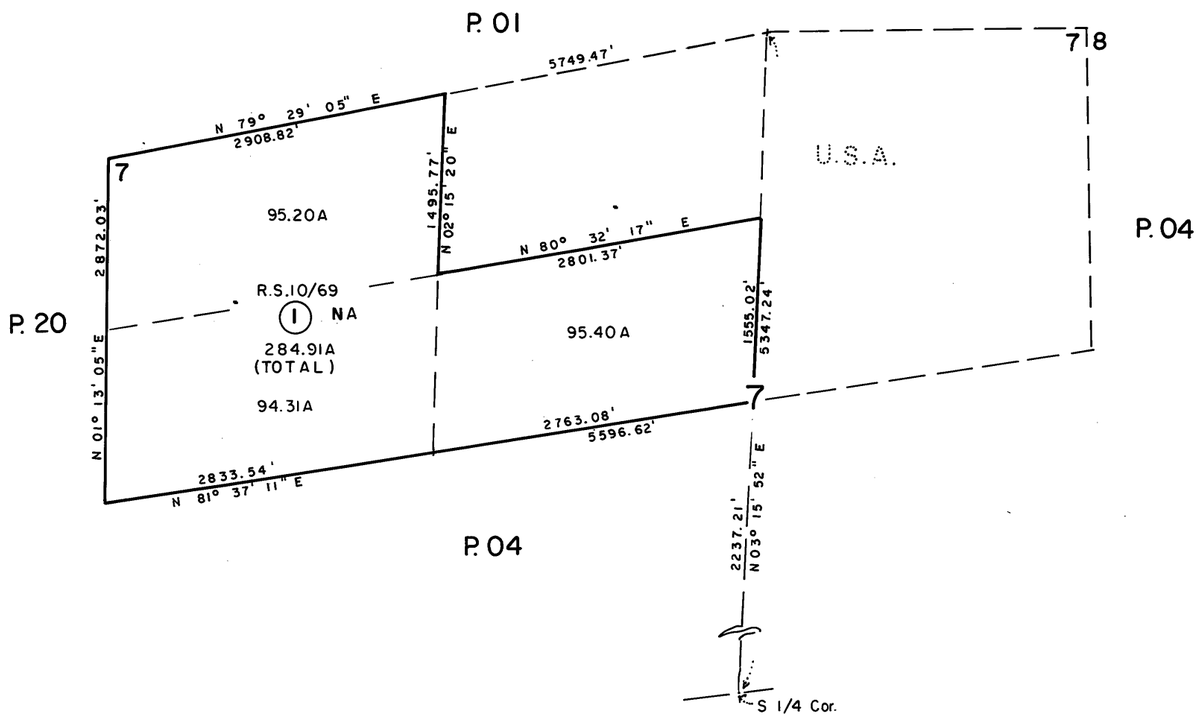
Danny Marquis

Danny Marquis
District Conservationist
NRCS, Placerville


Cody Meadow Restoration
SNC Grant Proposal
Project Location Map
Cody Meadow
Lake Tahoe
Desolation Wilderness
NEVADA
CALIFORNIA
South Lake Tahoe
Geprgetown
Coloma
Pollock Pines
Kyburz
Project Area
Camino
Placerville
Diamond Springs
Kit Carson
Mokelumne Wilderness
Pioneer
89
50
193
49
88
4
California Vicinity Map
Redding
Sacramento
South Lake Tahoe
Eldorado National Forest
Los Angeles
10
Miles

POR. SEC. 7, T.10N. R.17E.M.D.M.

Tax Area Code 39 : 33



1" = 1200'

NOTE – Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles

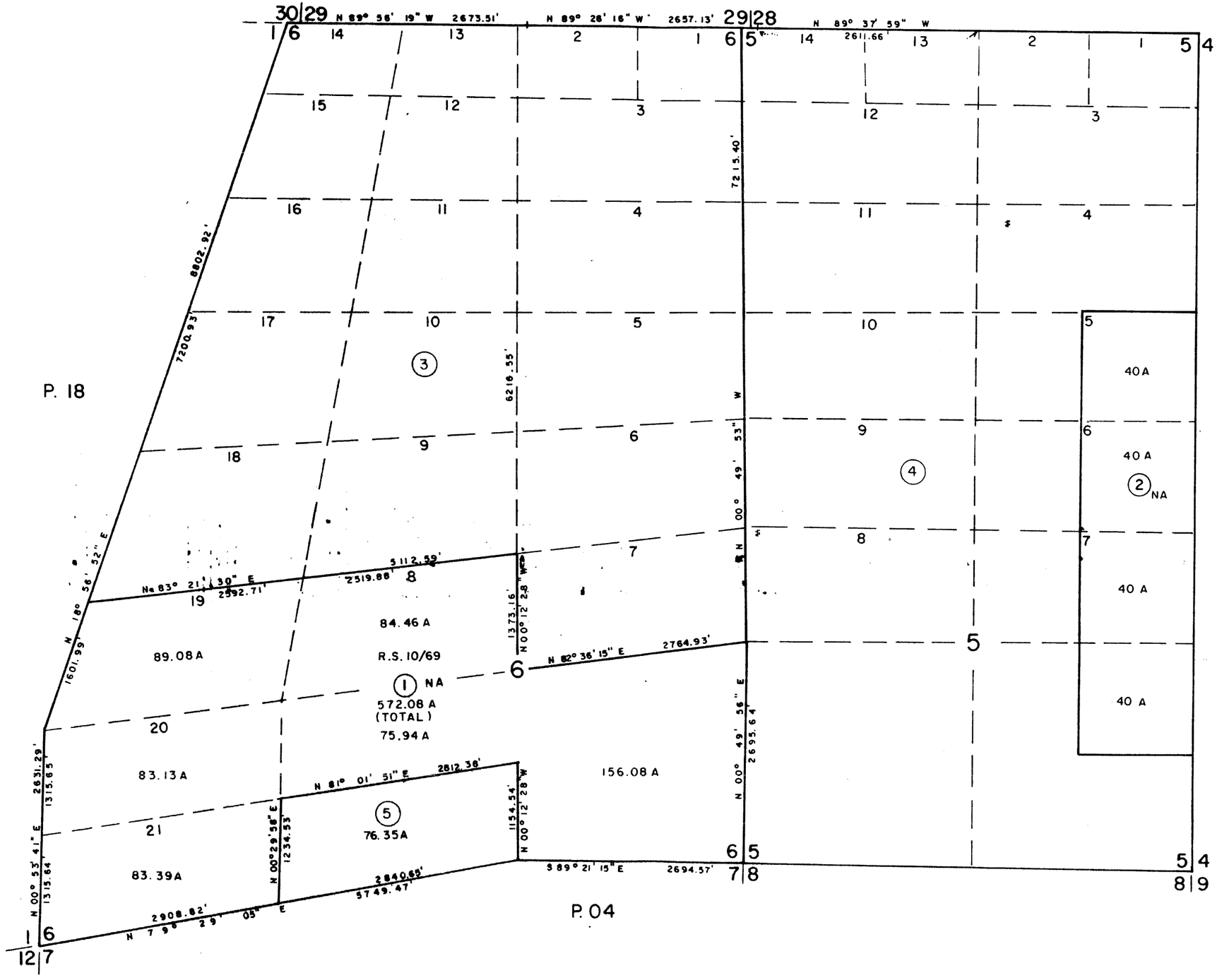
Assessor's Map Bk. 39 — Pg. 33
County of El Dorado, California

SECS. 5 & 6 T. 10 N. R. 17 E. M. D. M.

Tax Area Code **39:01**

BK. 38 P. 03

1" = 1200'



NOTE – Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles

SECS. 7, 8, 9, 16, 17 & 18., T.10N., R.17E., M.D.M.

Tax Area Code 39:04

1" = 1200'

P.01

P.20

P.33

P.22

P.05

P.06

7 | 1 — 40.97 A
2 — 41.01 A
3 — 41.03 A
4 — 41.07 A

18 | 1 — 41.06 A
2 — 41.01 A
3 — 40.97 A
4 — 40.92 A

7 | 8 — ④
8 | 9 — ⑤
9 — ⑥

18 | 17 — ⑦
17 | 16 — ⑧
16 — ⑨

9 — ② N/A 120.00 A

16 — ③ 40.00 A

THIS MAP IS NOT A SURVEY, It is prepared by the El Dorado Co. Assessor's office for assessment purposes only.

NOTE -- Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles

Assessor's Map Bk. 39 -- Pg. 04
County of El Dorado, California

Cody Meadow Restoration
SNC Grant Proposal
Topographic Map

Cody Meadow
Meadow
Cody Meadow
Meadow
Building
Not Designated for Public Use
Non-Motorized Trail
Non-System Route

See ENF MVUM for remaining Road and Trail Descriptions

Map Document: (M:\gis\projects\Requests\KMorales\CodyMeadowGrant\MXD\TopographicMap.mxd) -- 10/17/2012

1:24,000 1 Miles

1:12,000 0.5 Miles

Figure 1: Riparian-wetland shrub vegetation, particularly willow, is distributed along stream channels throughout Cody Meadow, although some areas have patches rather than continuous cover. Mountain alders occur along the spring/seep area in the southern meadow.

Figure 2: Much of Cody Meadow has an adequate amount of vegetation to prevent excessive erosion.

Figure 3: Some willows along the stream channel in the Southern portion of the meadow appear pedestalled, however, the majority of willows look to be in good condition.

Figure 4: The culvert underneath the non-system road crossing Cody Meadow is damaged at both the inlet and the outlet, which appears to restrict the passage of surface water through it, and the road itself affects the movement of surface and sub-surface water to the lower portion of the meadow. The culvert and road presently inhibit aquatic organism passage.

Figure 5: Stream bank shearing, channel downcutting, and channel widening have occurred in some locations within Cody Meadow – with some impacts attributable to past grazing. Field review in 2012 showed partial revegetation has occurred at some sites.

Figure 6: Stream bank disturbance in Cody Meadow in 2006. Improved meadow health and seral status would be expected to improve the ability of the stream banks and special aquatic features to withstand livestock impacts and reduce the likelihood that grazing would exceed allowable standards for stream bank disturbance.

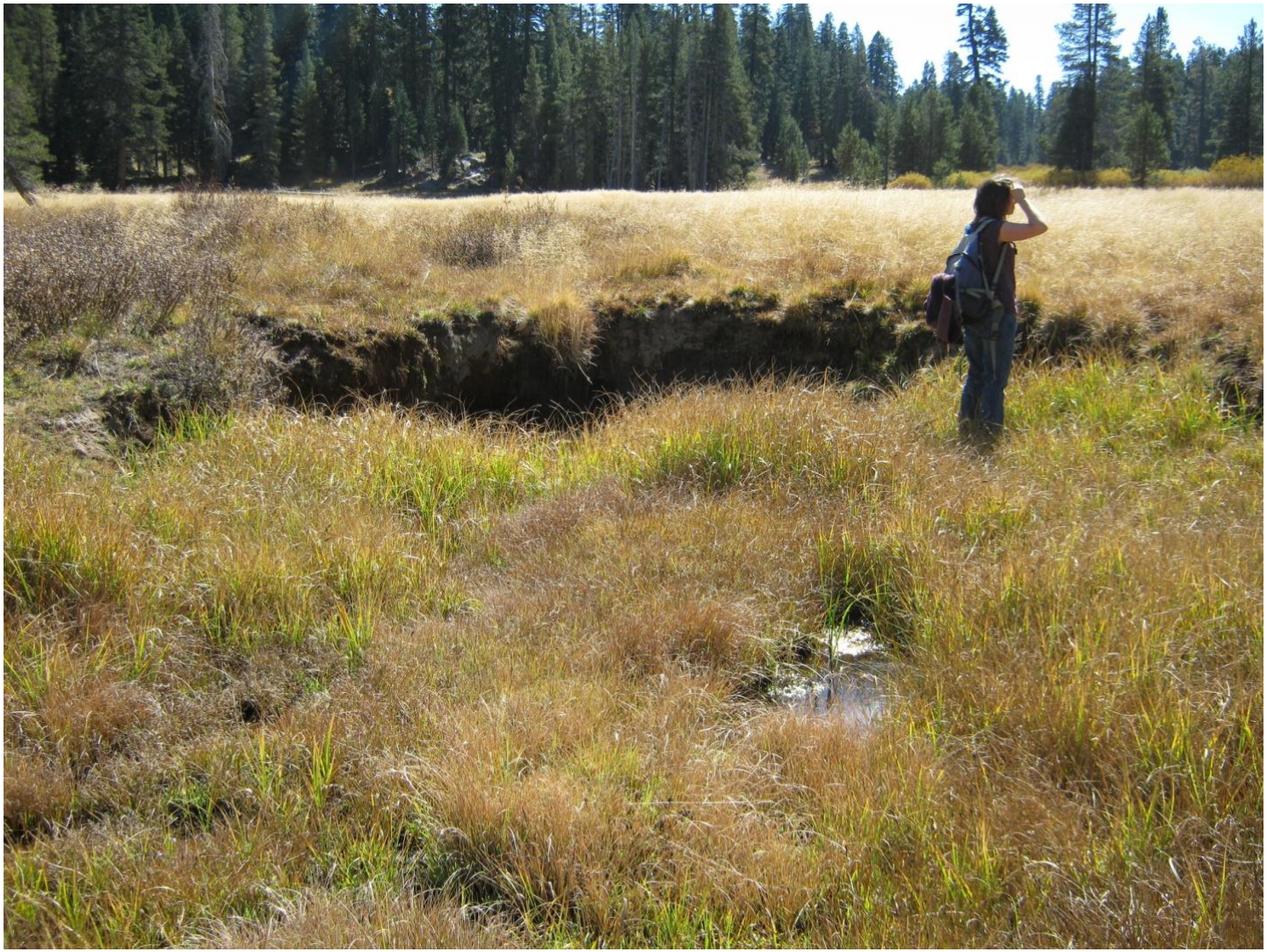


Figure 7: A headcut is a sudden change in elevation or knickpoint at the leading edge of a gully. Left unchecked, headcuts have the potential to migrate upstream – creating incised channels, while transporting sediment downstream. This headcut in the upper portion of Cody Meadow is one of several headcuts observed within the meadow.

Figure 8: In this close-up of the headcut in upper portion of Cody Meadow, it can be seen that a small plunge pool is present at the base of the headcut. Plunge pools typically develop below headcuts due to the high energy of falling water. When a headcut advances, the lowering of the stream channel disconnects it from the floodplain, lowers the water table, and increases bank height, which often results in channel instability.

Figure 9: An increase of conifers into a meadow is referred to as conifer encroachment. Whether conifer encroachment in Cody Meadow is a result of large scale regional change, site specific disturbances, or natural succession is presently unknown.

Figure 10: Cody Meadow.